

**ED TAVASIEFF**  
**California Fresh Fish**  
**San Francisco, CA**

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**Re: Nomination for appointment to North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group**

My name is Ed Tavasieff and I am writing to place my name in consideration for nomination to the North Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group.

I am a commercial hook and line fisherman working in the North Central Coastal region. I have been doing so for the past 34 years and have intimate and accurate knowledge of the region's biological and socio-economic aspects. My area of expertise extends from Pt. Reyes to Pedro Point, although I have fished – and am knowledgeable about – the entire North Central Coast Project area.

My target species include California halibut, salmon, white sea bass, Dungeness crab, and rockfish.

I would like to see the current Marine Protected Areas (MPA's) arranged so they are more cohesive, logical, and include all forms of marine life. I look forward to working with other stakeholders to create this condition and believe the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) is the tool we need to do so.

I am concerned that the creation of MPA's will generate enforcement and user group challenges if the MPA's are not developed with logical and easily defined boundaries. I believe I can offer workable solutions to this challenge.

I will have direct contact with the fisherman and fish processor I will be representing, either in person, by phone, or by email to review and take comment on the MLPA implementation proceedings.

I realize that by assuming the responsibility of stakeholder, I am committed to fulfilling this responsibility to its completion. I accept this commitment of my time and resources, gladly.

I have previously worked with multi-interest user-groups in forming and finalizing bills that removed destructive fishing practice from the region, namely near-shore trawls and gill nets.

I have worked with UC Davis in the development of sturgeon hatchery techniques, and with Tiburon Lab on the striped bass studies in 1983. I am the secretary of the Fishery Enhancement and Research Foundation and am currently collecting resource sampling of white sea bass here in the bay area.

The commercial, small boat (under 30'), hook and line fisherman that I will be representing are unique; we fish with rod and reel and catch our fish, usually, one at a time. This allows us to handle and take care of our fish properly to provide the public with the best possible seafood. There is no finer quality seafood than hook and line caught. Our fish are in demand at all high-end restaurants and by seafood lovers and connoisseurs everywhere.

Our gear is very species-specific and we have practically no bycatch (less than 1%.) Any bycatch is easily released alive. We fish on a daily basis and our fish are delivered only hours after being caught, and often alive. Hook and line fishing, both sport and commercial, is truly the "sustainable" method of take.

Sustainable fishing methods are also supported by many wholesale fish buyers. I have been asked to represent Monterey Fish Market, a very well known local wholesaler. I will be representing their interests and concerns about maintaining a healthy, sustainable resource for now and in the future.

All of the species we hook and line fishermen target are within the three mile state waters. This puts our fishery directly within the purview of the MLPA. We are a small group with approximately 100 fishermen (both full and part-time), and have no one to represent us in the MLPA process. Therefore, I am asking you to include me in the North Central Stakeholders Group so that I can represent our unique fishery and those who support it.

We are not connected to any organization and are only referred to by the ports we hail from (Half Moon Bay, San Francisco, Berkeley, Richmond, Bolinas, and Bodega Bay, among others.) I will be in communication with some or all of the members of these ports either in person or by phone or email.

My personal and our collective knowledge of the North Central Region will prove invaluable to the development of the regional profile. I respectfully request that you accept my nomination.

Finally, I thank you for your time and consideration of my letter and these important issues. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Ed Tavasieff  
California Fresh Fish  
San Francisco, CA